'Ilio Point Moloka'i

Comments: Fern P. Duvall II
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Background:
I have personally been at 'Ilio Point about 10 times since 1997 to assess seabird nesting activity, and the predation on the seabirds. This was done in my role as Wildlife Biologist. I have also observed the associated coastal strand vegetation during those visits. Axis deer and goats were seen, the former sometimes were numerous.

Vegetation: 'Ilio Point (IP) at the NE end of Molokai has native coastal strand vegetation of good quality with many unusual and or rare elements. If managed for ungulate damage it's vegetation and coastal ecosystem would likely parallel Mo'omomi in quality and quantity. Much vegetation assessment and familiarity with the vegetation is currently available through Bill Garnett and NTBG.

Seabirds: 'Ilio has more species of nesting seabirds (nest attempts) than Mo'omomi currently has. I have recorded nesting attempts for Hawaiian Black Noddy, Red-tailed Tropic bird, Bulwer's Petrel, Wedge-tailed Shearwater. Brown Boobies, and Red-footed Boobies, and Laysan Albatross have been seen off the Point in nearby waters. Curiously, the Lesser Frigate Bird will actually alight and roost on the point (and suffer predation). Predation by numerous cats, mongooses, and rats (dogs?) is severe. I have never detected reachable (burrows are narrow and deep) nestlings, and feel that survival of any seabird chick is likely a matter of random luck. With fencing and threat management IP would support thousands of seabirds.

Honu and Hawaiian Monk Seal have been seen on shore of IP.

Issues:
No management for native resources.
No control of threats from direct predation and or trampling.
No protection for plants from browsing/grazing/trampling pressures.
Presence of obvious surface ordnance.
No ordnance assessment, and no ordnance removal.

Recommendations and Possible Solutions:
Stop degradation of IP ecosystem as soon as feasible.
Have Navy, US Coast Guard, US Army Corps of Engineers contracted to assess then address the ordnance at IP. Parsons Brinkerhoff has done/are doing recent such assessments of Off-shore islets for UXO. Contacts are Lloyd Grearson 808-748-7593 and or Daron Gibson (Parsons) at daron.gibson@parsons.com. Paul Conry is in the loop on UXO surveys and general needs for IP being addressed.

Longer-term:
Bring under DLNR DOFAW control.
Fence and manage the IP as State Wildlife Sanctuary or Natural Area Reserve.

East Maui Mesic Koa Special Biological Area

Background:
This Koa overstory diverse area starts *approximately* at the western most and most mauka side at Kahakapao Gulch at 4300' and extends in a fairly narrow swath as far east as Kailua Gulch and extending down to approximately the Hana Highway. There are large inclusions of non-native predominated forest stands, with gulches, stream courses, and steep areas being the most intact and biologically diverse.

Vegetation: Extremely diverse with many T&E and candidate and rare species. Large "pockets" of especially diverse and intact areas, sometimes with 'specimen trees'. Generally the more the area is visited the more botanical diversity that is detected.

Wildlife: Area has very diverse poorly assessed native invertebrate community (insect and snail) including Picture-wing Flies, *Megalagrion spp.* and *Partulina* species. Will Haines has done some of the more intense invert work in the upper Makawao Forest areas of the ecotone.

Issues:
No clearly defined areas ready to be mapped.
No good assessment of the 'swath' for plants, inverts, or intact sub-unit delineation.
No control of threats from direct predation by rodents and lacks enough protection for plants from browsing/grazing/trampling pressures in many areas.

Recommendations and Possible Solutions:
Stop degradation of ecosystem as soon as feasible.
Implement a multi-faceted GIS based study for all native resources.
Determine the core special biologically intact units and map all of the subject ecotone.
Longer-term:
Bring under DLNR DOFAW control. Now it is a State, Leased State, and Private Land matrix.
Fence and manage the Special core areas for native resource enhancement, determining what program can best implement protection and management strategy.